

The requirement for restriction is respectfully traversed.

Because of the very close inter-relationship between the composition and the method of the present invention, it is believed that all the claims of the present application are properly examinable in a single application. Also, restricting the present application to one allegedly distinct invention would be an undue financial hardship on the Applicants in view of the similarities between the composition and the method of the present invention. However, in order to comply with the Examiner's requirement, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute claims 1-3, drawn to a composition.

Applicants specifically reserve the right to file a divisional application on the non-elected claims 4-6 at a later date if it is desired.

In view of the above remarks, reconsideration of the requirement for restriction and action on the merits of all the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for

Appl. No. 09/254,316

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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